

# **Exhibit A**



**DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT & HOUSING**

2218 Kausen Drive, Suite 100 | Elk Grove | CA | 95758  
800-884-1684 | TDD 800-700-2320  
www.dfeh.ca.gov | email: contact.center@dfeh.ca.gov

DIRECTOR KEVIN KISH

August 05, 2015

Ben Meiselas  
Geragos And Geragos, APC, 644 South Figueroa Street  
Los Angeles California 90017

**RE: Notice to Complainant or Complainant's Attorney**

DFEH Matter Number: 624984-174494

Right to Sue: Weinberg / Valeant Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Dear Complainant or Complainant's Attorney:

Attached is a copy of your complaint of discrimination filed with the Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) pursuant to the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, Government Code section 12900 et seq. Also attached is a copy of your Notice of Case Closure and Right to Sue. Pursuant to Government Code section 12962, DFEH will not serve these documents on the employer. You or your attorney must serve the complaint. If you do not have an attorney, you must serve the complaint yourself. Please refer to the attached Notice of Case Closure and Right to Sue for information regarding filing a private lawsuit in the State of California.

Be advised that the DFEH does not review or edit the complaint form to ensure that it meets procedural or statutory requirements.

Sincerely,

Department of Fair Employment and Housing



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DIRECTOR KEVIN KISH

August 05, 2015

**RE: Notice of Filing of Discrimination Complaint**

DFEH Matter Number: 624984-174494

Right to Sue: Weinberg / Valeant Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

To All Respondent(s):

Enclosed is a copy of a complaint of discrimination that has been filed with the Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) in accordance with Government Code section 12960. This constitutes service of the complaint pursuant to Government Code section 12962. The complainant has requested an authorization to file a lawsuit. This case is not being investigated by DFEH and is being closed immediately. A copy of the Notice of Case Closure and Right to Sue is enclosed for your records.

Please refer to the attached complaint for a list of all respondent(s) and their contact information.

**No response to DFEH is requested or required.**

Sincerely,

Department of Fair Employment and Housing



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DIRECTOR KEVIN KISH

August 05, 2015

Joseph Weinberg

**RE: Notice of Case Closure and Right to Sue**

DFEH Matter Number: 624984-174494

Right to Sue: Weinberg / Valeant Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Dear Joseph Weinberg,

This letter informs you that the above-referenced complaint was filed with the Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) has been closed effective August 05, 2015 because an immediate Right to Sue notice was requested. DFEH will take no further action on the complaint.

This letter is also your Right to Sue notice. According to Government Code section 12965, subdivision (b), a civil action may be brought under the provisions of the Fair Employment and Housing Act against the person, employer, labor organization or employment agency named in the above-referenced complaint. The civil action must be filed within one year from the date of this letter.

To obtain a federal Right to Sue notice, you must visit the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) to file a complaint within 30 days of receipt of this DFEH Notice of Case Closure or within 300 days of the alleged discriminatory act, whichever is earlier.

Sincerely,

Department of Fair Employment and Housing



**DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT & HOUSING**

DIRECTOR KEVIN KISH

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Enclosures

cc: Medicis Pharmaceutical Corporation

Obagi Medical Products, Inc.

Bausch And Lomb Incorporated

**COMPLAINT OF EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION**  
**BEFORE THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING**  
**Under the California Fair Employment and Housing Act**  
**(Gov. Code, § 12900 et seq.)**

In the Matter of the Complaint of  
Joseph Weinberg, Complainant.

DFEH No. 624984-174494

vs.

Valeant Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Respondent.  
400 Somerset Corporate Blvd.  
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807

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Complainant alleges:

1. Respondent **Valeant Pharmaceuticals, Inc.** is a subject to suit under the California Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) (Gov. Code, § 12900 et seq.). Complainant believes respondent is subject to the FEHA.

2. On or around **August 06, 2013**, complainant alleges that respondent took the following adverse actions against complainant: **Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation Denied a work environment free of discrimination and/or retaliation, Denied family care or medical leave, Denied reasonable accommodation, Forced to quit, Terminated, .** Complainant believes respondent committed these actions because of their: **Disability, Medical Condition - including Cancer .**

3. Complainant **Joseph Weinberg** resides in the City of , State of . If complaint includes co-respondents please see below.

**Co-Respondents:**

Medicis Pharmaceutical Corporation

400 Somerset Corporate Blvd.  
Bridgewater New Jersey 08807

Obagi Medical Products, Inc.

400 Somerset Corporate Blvd.  
Bridgewater New Jersey 08807

Bausch And Lomb Incorporated

1400 North Goodman Street  
Rochester New York 14609

**Additional Complaint Details:**

Mr. Weinbergs claims arise out of the disability discrimination, retaliation, and wrongful termination by Valeant Pharmaceuticals, Inc. ("Valeant") because he suffers from Multiple Sclerosis and is compounded because he refused to participate in fraudulent conduct. As a result of Valeants unlawful conduct, Mr. Weinbergs life has been placed in severe jeopardy. Beginning in March 2013, Valeant interviewed Mr. Weinberg over a three-month period for a potential employment position to direct Valeants IT infrastructure. Valeant recognized Mr. Weinbergs extraordinarily advanced skillset and concluded its six-month nationwide search by offering Mr. Weinberg the Senior Converged Infrastructure Engineer position. Valeant offered Mr. Weinberg a base salary of \$110,000, undisclosed stock grants, a 10% bonus, and medical benefits. Mr. Weinberg was offered an employment position with Valeant, not with one of Valeants many subsidiaries. In considering Valeants employment offer, Mr. Weinberg was concerned about the stable environment and working conditions because he suffers from the neurological condition Multiple Sclerosis. Mr. Weinbergs then-employer had created an environment where Mr. Weinberg could manage his condition and employment responsibilities, and Mr. Weinberg wanted a similar experience. Mr. Weinberg accepted Valeants offer because, in part: (1) Valeant was a stable company that could provide him and his family extraordinary health benefits, and (2) Mr. Weinberg believed that a company that manufactured and sold neurological medications would care and have compassion for a Multiple Sclerosis patient such as himself. Mr. Weinberg began his position at Valeant in May, 2013 and worked directly under the supervision of IT engineering directors Jacob Alao and Steve Schiavone. At the outset, Mr. Weinberg was enthusiastic and excited about his position and looked forward to going to work each day. During this time, Mr. Weinberg and his wife learned that they were expecting their second child. However, beginning in June, 2013 and more fully described below, the severe stress caused by Valeants corporate culture and the unlawful orders given by Mr. Weinbergs managers caused him to experience physical manifestations of his Multiple Sclerosis. Valeants failure to control Mr. Weinbergs supervisor, Jacob Alao, created a hostile environment. Approximately one month into Mr. Weinbergs employment at Valeant, Mr. Alao visited Scottsdale, Arizona to meet with Mr. Weinberg. During this visit, Mr. Alao told Mr. Weinberg that he had his own Nigerian financial company called Mongran Financial ("Mongran"), and that Valeant and Mr. Alaos prior employers had helped start Mongran. Knowing that Mr. Weinberg had access to Valeants Oracle RAC system used for the financial databases as well as the SAP system, Mr. Alao asked Mr. Weinberg if he wanted to help do business at Valeant by providing access to those systems. Mr. Weinberg refused to help Mr. Alao, recognizing that providing access to private financial systems was a violation of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and PCI security standards. Mr. Alaos illegitimate operations expose Valeant to substantial liability. After Mr. Weinberg refused to comply with Mr. Alaos demands, Mr. Alao proceeded to hire numerous consultants, all of whom were



from Nigeria. Mr. Weinberg interacted with several of these consultants and recognized that, although they knew very little about IT systems, they nevertheless wanted to gain access to financial data and personally identifiable information. Mr. Weinberg never provided access to this information to anyone. Nonetheless, because of his influential position in the IT division at Valeant, Mr. Alao and his consultants gained access to these systems. Mr. Alaos other hostile conduct was alarming as well. On one occasion, Mr. Weinberg was working at a Valeant subsidiary company named Obagi. Mr. Alao instructed and insisted Mr. Weinberg perform data migration in manners that fell below industry standards and, in Mr. Weinbergs extensive experience, would cause the data to become corrupt. When Mr. Weinberg voiced these concerns to Mr. Alao, he insisted and demanded Mr. Weinberg proceed anyway, going so far as to remotely log-in to Mr. Weinbergs active computer session, take control of his mouse, and make changes to the system to ensure corruption and data loss. Mr. Alao corrupted the data to the point where it became unusable. Mr. Alao became hostile towards Mr. Weinberg after Mr. Weinberg refused to help Mr. Alao with his Nigerian enterprise and the Obagi matter. For example, Mr. Alao would intimidate and tell Mr. Weinberg the bloody things that he would do such as fire people for the fun of the bloodsport, how Valeant would conduct hostile takeovers of companies and ruin the lives of the preexisting staff by giving them termination dates, and how he found it funny that the girlfriend of Jonah Shacknai, the founder of Medicis Pharmaceutical, committed suicide by hanging naked from Mr. Shacknais balcony. Mr. Alaos retaliatory campaign increased in severity over time. The escalating severity and effects of Mr. Alaos intimidating and retaliatory conduct caused the debilitating effects of Multiple Sclerosis to take their toll on Mr. Weinberg. For example, Mr. Weinberg began to experience difficulty with his cognitive abilities, numbness in his appendages, and mobility problems, all of which signaled that he was suffering brain and spinal column damage. Mr. Weinberg therefore approached Alison Brunger, Valeants Director of Human Resources, to explore these issues so that Mr. Weinberg could continue to work for Valeant. Valeant never responded to Mr. Weinberg. Mr. Weinbergs health continued to decline through June and July of 2013. Mr. Weinberg, his family, and his Multiple Sclerosis neurologists feared that the stressful and hostile environment at Valeant was going to cause brain damage, diminish his quality of life, and ultimately permanently disable him. Mr. Weinbergs only option was to continue working in order to support his family and pay for his treatments, and therefore he was forced to forego using a more effective medication in favor of a less effective medication that would allow him to continue working. Despite these immense challenges, Mr. Weinberg nonetheless excelled at work. When Valeant Pharmaceuticals acquired Medicis Pharmaceutical in 2012, Mr. Weinberg was informed that his job was safe. Mr. Alao told Mr. Weinberg that he would be given a relocation package so that Mr. Weinberg could move back to New Jersey and continue his employment with Valeant. However, Mr. Weinberg learned from former Medicis employees that they were not awarded relocation packages despite promises otherwise. As Valeant was well aware of Mr. Weinbergs health issues, he began to realize that his job was not safe. His health continued to decline, and in August, 2013, Mr. Weinberg again contacted Ms. Brunger in order to discuss a severance package. As Mr. Weinberg again informed Ms. Brunger of his failing health and the hostile and

stressful work environment. Instead of discussing a severance package so that Mr. Weinberg could get treatment, Valeant terminated Mr. Weinberg's employment at its first opportunity. Ms. Brunger misled Mr. Weinberg into scheduling a meeting to discuss his health and the work environment in August, 2013. At this meeting, and instead of discussing these issues, Ms. Brunger handed Mr. Weinberg separation papers and offered Mr. Weinberg FMLA leave. She also stated that the Senior Vice President of IT approved Mr. Weinberg taking unpaid time off. However, Mr. Weinberg could not afford to take time off as he was obligated to care for his family as well as pay for his costly treatments. Thereafter, Valeant terminated Mr. Weinberg's employment. Mr. Weinberg was forced to seek new employment quickly as he and his family were expecting their second child. Consequently Mr. Weinberg was left with no income and Valeant Cobra insurance that cost him over \$1,600 per month, putting the Weinberg family into a dire financial situation. Mr. Weinberg's Multiple Sclerosis worsened and diminished his cognitive ability even further. Mr. Weinberg was forced to sell his house, car, and stocks, and cash out his 401k in order to live. In addition, an MRI in October of 2013 revealed four lesions on Mr. Weinberg's brain, limiting his ability to function, despite his young age, as well as his ability to find another job. Sadly, the long-lasting mental and physical pain inflicted upon Mr. Weinberg as a result of the stressful environment at Valeant was so great that he contemplated suicide. Thankfully, he decided against taking his own life. The Weinberg family then moved to Utah with Mr. Weinberg's in-laws so that Mr. Weinberg could focus on healing. In the spring of 2014, Mr. Weinberg was prescribed Rituxan from the Barrow Neurological Institute. When Mr. Weinberg attempted to receive treatment, Valeant's Cobra insurance denied coverage. Mr. Weinberg could not afford, and therefore could not receive, this life-saving treatment. Mr. Weinberg instead was prescribed Tysabri, which has a high and potentially fatal risk of brain damage, because it was covered by Valeant's Cobra insurance. In October of 2013, Mr. Weinberg's oldest son started showing signs of erratic behavior and shortly thereafter was diagnosed with Autism. The next month, Mr. Weinberg's second child was born. Due to the financial situation caused by Valeant's wrongful termination, Mr. Weinberg could not afford the Autism treatments for his oldest son. As a result, Mr. Weinberg's oldest son is now non-verbal and will likely never lead a normal life. But for Valeant's wrongful termination, Mr. Weinberg would have been able to afford early intervention medical treatments for his son. Valeant Pharmaceuticals' wrongful conduct contravenes numerous statutory, common law, and Constitutional provisions, all of which generate significant liability for Valeant Pharmaceuticals International, Inc. As Mr. Weinberg's former employer, Valeant Pharmaceuticals is liable for disability discrimination and wrongful termination, as well as numerous violations of Federal and State statutes prohibiting discrimination based on one's disability. Valeant's termination of Mr. Weinberg's employment was clearly motivated by his Multiple Sclerosis. Indeed, Valeant hired a new employee to replace Mr. Weinberg despite representing that Mr. Weinberg's employment position was being terminated as part of the Medici's layoffs. To make matters worse, Valeant failed to properly supervise Mr. Weinberg's manager, allowing Mr. Alao free reign to harass and intimidate Mr. Weinberg into participating in his fraudulent conduct. As a result of this unlawful conduct, Mr. Weinberg has suffered significant economic and emotional damages. Due to Valeant wrongfully terminating

him, Mr. Weinberg has lost years of earning at least a \$140,000 salary, was forced to sell his home, car, and stocks, and was forced to spend his 401k and savings in order to survive. Mr. Weinberg also suffered serious emotional and physical distress as a result of the disability discrimination he experienced at Valeant, the resulting Multiple Sclerosis symptoms, and the four subsequent relocations Mr. Weinberg and his family had to make before finally settling down in Las Vegas. Valeant is directly liability for these injuries.

1 VERIFICATION

2 I, **Ben Meiselas**, am the Attorney for Complainant in the above-entitled complaint. I have read the foregoing  
3 complaint and know the contents thereof. The same is true of my own knowledge, except as to those matters  
4 which are therein alleged on information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe it to be true.

5 On August 05, 2015, I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the  
6 foregoing is true and correct.

7 **Los Angeles, CA**  
8 **Ben Meiselas**  
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